

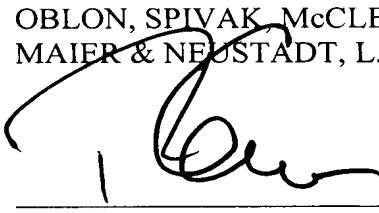
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowability for Claims 7, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 26. By the above amendment the limitation of Claim 17 has been incorporated into independent Claim 5, thus making Claim 5 and all claims dependant thereon (i.e., Claims 6-8, 11-16, 18-22 and 24-25) allowable. Claim 23, indicated as allowable, has been placed in independent form, making Claim 23 and Claim 17, now dependent on Claim 23, allowable. As Claims 1-4, 9 and 10 have been cancelled, all claims pending herein are allowable.

With regard to withdrawn Claim 11, Applicants respectfully request the rejoinder and allowance of this claim along with Claim 5, from which it depends. As Claim 5 describes a patentable epichlorohydrinamine polymer the use of this patentable polymer in treating the surface of a semi finished leather product as described in Claim 11 is similarly allowable.

Accordingly, and in view of the above amendments placing this case in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections and the passage of this case to Issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P.


Richard L. Treanor
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 36,379

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 07/09)